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BIWEEKLY REPORT

**COMMUNIST STATEMENTS REGARDING INTERVENTION
IN VIETNAM AND POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS**

30 March 1966

Handwritten notes:
To
Bill
Bob
Car
Return
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Washington 25, D. C.
30 March 1966

MEMORANDUM

Attached is a compilation of Communist statements on possible direct military intervention in the Vietnam situation, and on possible negotiations toward a settlement, received since our last biweekly report (OCI No. 0506/66) issued 15 March 1966.

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SUMMARY

NEGOTIATIONS

USSR Moscow's position on the question of negotiations remains unchanged.

China The Chinese continue to assert that there can be no negotiated settlement of the Vietnam question except on the Communist terms.

INTERVENTION

The Soviet Union's recent public expressions of support for the DRV have given no indication of any shift in Moscow's position.

Peking's continued public pledges of support for the Vietnamese continue to imply that it is the US rather than China which will initiate a Sino-US war.

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DRV Hanoi's position on settling the war has not changed during the past two weeks. The North Vietnamese continue to insist that their position as outlined in their four point statement of 8 April 1965 must form the

Hanoi's oblique references to volunteers in the past two weeks represent an effort to demonstrate that nations throughout the world are continuing to manifest their support for the Vietnamese by coming and fighting alongside them.

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NEGOTIATIONS

DRV
Cont'd

basis for any negotiated solution to the war. In recent weeks Hanoi propaganda has played up the support its position has received from meetings connected with the Tri-continental Congress week of solidarity with Vietnam and the statement on Vietnam at the Soviet Party Congress.

The Liberation Front's position on bringing the war to a negotiated solution has not deviated in the past two weeks from its five point statement issued on 22 March 1965.

INTERVENTION

While acknowledging these offers, Hanoi has never publicly accepted them nor claimed such volunteers are needed.

The Liberation Front made no significant statements on the subject of intervention during the past two weeks.

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COMMUNIST STATEMENTS ON INTERVENTION IN VIETNAM

Selected Soviet Statements on Intervention

<u>Selected Soviet Public Statements</u>	<u>Selected Soviet Private Statements</u>	<u>Comments</u>
13 March 66: In a Pravda editorial entitled "Militant Solidarity" Moscow reiterated its public claim that, "The Soviet Union is carrying out its international duty by continuing to render the Vietnamese people all types of support and aid in the struggle against US imperialism's aggression."		Moscow's public expressions of support for the DRV remain unchanged.
15 March 66: Radio Moscow to China stated, "the Soviet Union has helped and is still giving necessary aid to the DRV in order to strengthen its defense capability. In the past year because the US imperialists extended their aggression, the Soviet Union has especially increased its aid to the DRV to strengthen its defense capability." It concluded that, "the Soviet Union fulfills its internationalist duty and will continue to help the DRV strengthen its defense capability and rebuff aggression."		

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Selected Chinese Communist References to Intervention

Selected Chinese
Public Statements

Selected Chinese
Private Statements

Comments

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These statements probably reflect Chinese propaganda charges that the US "aggressors" are plotting an attack on China. They may be intended to lend credibility to Peking's propaganda and in this way help generate deterrent political pressure against US military escalation. There is no evidence of the extensive activity

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Selected Chinese
Public Statements

Selected Chinese
Private Statements

Comments

18 March 66: At a Peking rally commemorating the 16th anniversary of the "19 March Vietnam day of struggle against US imperialism" and the "week of solidarity with the Vietnamese people," Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Kuo Mo-jo declared that "The 650 million people of China are prepared. If you /the US/ insist on another trial of strength with us, suit yourself. Come whenever you like, alone or with others. We won't shut you out; we will wipe you out." [redacted]

A repetition of Peking's standard line implying that it is the US which will initiate a Sino-US war rather than China. [redacted]

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26 March 66: At a Peking rally welcoming a visiting Japanese Communist Party delegation, Politburo member Peng Chen declared that if the US insists "on escalating the war and on imposing war on the Chinese people, well, let them just come and try. It can be stated with certainty that this will only expedite the destruction of US "imperialism."

Selected North Vietnamese References to Intervention

Selected DRV
Public Statements

Selected DRV
Private Statements

Comments

15 March 66: A Hanoi international broadcast on Chinese support for the DRV noted that many letters from Chinese people "express their readiness to go to Vietnam to fight beside the brother Vietnamese people against the US aggressors."

Hanoi propaganda has been relatively silent on the subject of intervention for some months. This reference is similar to many others broadcast in the past and does not suggest that the DRV plans to implement the threat in the foreseeable future.

22 March 66: A Hanoi VNA broadcast on the occasion of the first anniversary of the 22 March 1965 five-point statement of the NFLSV noted that "A movement has surged up in the five continents to volunteer to go to South Vietnam and fight against the US imperialist aggressors."

The mention of volunteers for Vietnam in the context of the first anniversary of the Front statement on a settlement of the war does not appear to increase the threat of possible intervention. Rather, it appears as part of Hanoi's effort to demonstrate that the Front enjoys world wide support.

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COMMUNIST STATEMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS IN VIETNAM

Selected Soviet Statements on Negotiations

Selected Soviet
Public Statements

Selected Soviet
Private Statements

Comments

[REDACTED]
portedly received no encourage-
ment from Soviet leaders when
he raised a Vietnam "peace com-
mittee" proposal with them.

This is consistent with Mos-25X1
cow's response to similar
peace feelers from other
neutrals. The Soviets have
made it clear they will not
encourage such efforts un-
less asked to do so by the
North Vietnamese leadership
or when Moscow believes there
is a clear chance that its
efforts will be successful.

Moscow's public position on
this question has not changed.

13 March 66: In a Pravda
editorial the Soviets re-
peated their public position
on the question of a Vietnam-
ese settlement, stating "There
is a correct basis for a solu-
tion of the Vietnam conflict,"
adding, "the Soviet Union is
in full agreement with the
position of the DRV and the
NFLSV on the question of
settling the conflict."

29 March 66: According to the
TASS Summary Soviet party chief
Brezhnev stated in his speech
before the CPSU Congress that,
"The Soviet Union stands for
a settlement of the Vietnamese
problem on the basis set forth
by the DRV government and the
South Vietnamese National
Liberation Front."

This is a reiteration of
Moscow's familiar public
position on the question of
a settlement in Vietnam.

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Selected Soviet
Public Statements

Selected Soviet
Private Statements

Comments

16 March 66: A Radio Moscow commentary stated, "the Soviet people have helped and will continue to help in every way the Vietnamese people in the struggle against US imperialist aggression. The Soviet people consider this their internationalist duty."

17 March 66: Deputy Premier Novikov, speaking at a reception in honor of visiting Cambodian Deputy Premier Son Sann, said that, "the USSR is adopting measures to prevent the dirty American war from spreading into other parts of Indochina."

29 March 66: CPSU First Secretary Brezhnev, during his speech to the 23rd Congress stated, "we declare categorically that in escalating the shameful war against the Vietnamese people they will have to contend with mounting support for Vietnam from the Soviet Union and other Socialist friends and brothers."

This statement is consistent with the recent Soviet protests about US activities in Thailand and Laos.

This statement goes no further than other previous Soviet public expressions of support for the DRV.

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Selected Chinese Communist References to Negotiations

Selected Chinese
Public Statements

Selected Chinese
Private Statements

Comments

18 March 66: At a Peking rally commemorating the 16th anniversary of the "19 March Vietnam day of struggle against US imperialism" and the "week of solidarity with the Vietnamese people." Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Kuo Mo-jo declared that "The Vietnam question can only be settled in accordance with the 4-point proposition of the government of the DRV and the 5-part statement of the Liberation Front." [redacted]

Kuo is reiterating Peking's opposition to a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam problem except on the Communist terms.

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Selected North Vietnamese References to Negotiations

Selected DRV
Public Statements

Selected DRV
Private Statements

Comments

25X1 11 March 66: In reporting the mission of special Canadian ambassador Ronning to North Vietnam, Hanoi radio stated that Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh "clearly explained to the Canadian representatives the stand of the DRV Government on the Vietnam question which had already been expounded in the letters of 24 January 1966 of President Ho Chi Minh and in the statements of the DRV Government on the Vietnam problem."

12 March 66: A Hanoi editorial on the week of tricontinental solidarity with Vietnam stated in part that "the conference fully supported the four-point stand of the DRV Government and the five-point statement of the NFLSV and called on the governments of peace-loving countries to recognize the NFLSV as the only genuine and legal representative of the South Vietnamese people."

16 March 66: A statement by the Fatherland Front Central Committee on the occasion of its 11th Congress declared in part "We earnestly appeal

While being courteous to representatives of the ICC countries who have put forth proposals for settling the war, Hanoi has nonetheless continued to insist that any negotiated solution to the war must be on its terms as outlined in the four-point proposal of 8 April 1965.

North Vietnamese propaganda and public statements on the occasion of the tri-continental week of solidarity with Vietnam heavily stressed that this was a firm demonstration of the world wide support and sympathy that the Liberation Forces and the people in North Vietnam enjoy.

This represents a formal reiteration of Hanoi's position on settling the war by the chief North Vietnamese popular mass organization.

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Selected DRV
Public Statements

Selected DRV
Private Statements

Comments

16 March 66 Cont'd: to all justice and peace loving organizations and strata of people in the world to broaden further the front of unity with the Vietnamese people in opposing the US Imperialist aggressors, to step up further the movement to support the Vietnamese people both morally and materially, and to demand the US Government put an end to their aggressive war against South Vietnam, cease for good and unconditionally their bombing and strafing of the DRV, and withdraw US and satellite troops from the south, in order to let the southern people settle the south's internal problems themselves, in conformity with the NIFSV, which is the genuine and only representative of the southern people. Only by so doing can true peace be restored in Vietnam, peace in independence and freedom, and can national independence and peace in southeast Asia in the world be protected."

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Selected DRV
Public Statements

Selected DRV
Private Statements

Comments



21 March 66: In an editorial comment on the Tricontinental congress' week of solidarity with Vietnam, Hanoi daily stated that "the people on the three continents have reiterated in one voice their total support for the four-point stand of the DRV Government and the five-point statement of the NFLSV, considering them as the only correct way to settle the Vietnam issue."

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21 March 66: The Hanoi party daily in a sharply worded article denounced the "new act of the Tito clique aimed at selling the peaceful negotiations swindle of the US imperialists and bringing pressure to bear upon the Vietnamese people." The article went on to list all previous efforts by the Yugoslavs to promote peace talks and condemned them with equal vigor.

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This attack on Tito once again demonstrates Hanoi's irritation at the efforts by third parties to establish some initiative on settling the war. In Hanoi's view, none of these initiatives have been close enough to the Vietnamese Communist terms for ending the conflict. This latest attack was provoked by Western press reports that Yugoslav Premier Stambolic was touring a number of Asian

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Selected DRV
Public Statements

Selected DRV
Private Statements

Comments

25X1 22 March 66: On the occasion of
the first anniversary of the
NVLSV 22 March five-point state-
ment Hanoi radio stated in part
that "Some 22 international
organizations and 515 national
organizations in 92 countries
warmly applauded the 22 March
statement and considered the
five-point position of the
NVLSV and the four-point posi-
tion of the DRV the sole cor-
rect basis for the settlement
of the situation in South Viet-
nam. Specifically, this is an
important political victory of
the NFLSV, while it is an utter
defeat for the US aggressors
and their lackeys." [redacted]
[redacted]

countries to call for negotia-
tions on the Vietnam problem.

The anniversary of the Libera-
tion Front's 22 March state-
ment has afforded Hanoi the
opportunity to restate its
contention that the NFLSV does
enjoy broad and growing interna-
tional support as the representa-
tive of the South Vietnamese
people, and that its position
as well as that of North Viet-
nam must form the basis for
any settlement of the war.

22 March 66: The Hanoi party
daily Nhan Dan in an article on
the occasion of the first anni-
versary of the Liberation
Front's 22 March statement
declared in part that the state-
ment "constitutes the national
salvation chart of the South
Vietnamese people and the
clarion call to all South
Vietnamese people to dash for-
ward and annihilate the US
aggressors and their henchmen.
The stand expounded in the
five-point statement of the

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Public Statements

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22 March 66 Cont'd: NFLSV on
22 March 1965 has enjoyed the
deep sympathy and support of
the socialist countries, of the
national liberation movements,
the international working class,
and the mass of the people in
various countries of the world."

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Selected National Liberation Front References to Negotiations

Selected Liberation
Front Public Statements

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Front Private Statements

Comments

21 March 66: According to Western press reports Vo Cong Trung, a member of the Liberation Front's representation in Algiers rejected a recent peace call by UN Secretary General U Thant and emphatically denied that in recent conversations with leftist British MP Lord Brockway he had welcomed the statement.

Western press reporters have several times in the past detected what they claimed to be some softening in the Front position as voiced by one of its spokesman. These alleged changes in the Front's position have usually been denied by the Front spokesman to whom they were attributed.

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